



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
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FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montañó

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mr. Frank S. Bacio

Ms. Barbara Bigby
Ms. Rita Hall
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mrs. Anne S. Hill
Mr. Carl E. Moore

MINUTES OF THE **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **DECEMBER 9, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairperson Montañó led in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chairperson Eleanor R. Montañó
Vice Chairperson Frank Bacio
Barbara Bigby
Rita Hall
John A. Hammargren
Anne S. Hill
Carl Moore

Guest

Cassandra Youngblood
Alexis Moore

Staff

Lee Millen
Nyla Jefferson

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2, 2009 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Moore and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meeting of December 2, 2009 were approved with the following addition:

Page 3, Inglewood Juvenile Center, "...and suggested that the purchase of hand-held video cameras would be desirable; the Commission will bring this to the attention of Robert Taylor, Chief Probation Officer."

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chairperson Montaña shared with the Commission the following:

- Wished all an enjoyable Holiday Luncheon hosted by the Commission.
- Made available the Hate Crime Report 2008

TREASURER'S REPORT

Vice Chairperson Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund as of November 27, 2009, is \$1, 294.93.

CORRESPONDENCE/AUDIT REPORTS

There was none.

FACILITY/GROUP HOME INSPECTION REPORTS FROM DECEMBER 3, 2009 TO DECEMBER 8, 2009

Pico Rivera Sheriff Station – Chairperson Montaña and Commissioner Hammargren

The facility was visited on December 8, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition. Robert Horan, Jailer, provided the tour of the facility; it is an excellent jail and highly organized.

Following discussion, Chairperson Montaña requested that a letter be prepared to forward to Sheriff Baca, copied to Chief, Region III, highly commending Deputy Horan for improving the facility's operation with innovativeness and efficiencies. Commissioner Hammargren concurred, and thanked Commissioner Moore for redoing part of the Inspection List that has served to carry out more efficient jail inspections.

Heritage Group Home – 24, #1 – Chairperson Montaña and Commissioner

Hammagren The facility was visited a second time on December 7, 2009, and no one was at home. The home contact had been telephoned that morning of the planned inspection.

Children Are Our Future – 6, #4 – Commissioners Bigby and Hill The facility was visited on December 4, 2009. This was the third return visit and only one (1) corrective action requested has been completed (replace shower door). Owner stated he did not receive the corrective action form, but staff advised it was provided to him. The owner was advised that a follow-up visit will be scheduled in 30 days. **Areas of Concern:** Replace cupboards, tile, paint all bedrooms, paint kitchen, replace counter, and install new carpet.

Following discussion, Commissioner Moore suggested a joint inspection of this Group Home with representatives of CCL, Probation, and the Commission on January 5, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. Robert Taylor, Chief Probation Officer, can be invited to designate a representative to participate in the joint inspection. Chairperson Montaña directed staff to invite Alan Henry, CCL, to attend next week's business meeting to discuss this issue.

Alhambra Branch Courthouse – Commissioner Bigby and Hill The facility was visited on December 8, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition. **Areas of Concern:** Jail cells need painting, and staff needs two more turnout gear.

Rosemary Children’s Services – 40, #2 – Commissioner Bigby and Hill The facility was visited on December 3, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition. **Area of Concern:** Not enough drinking glasses.

Los Angeles Airport County Court – Vice Chairperson Bacio, and Commissioners Moore and Hall The facility was visited on December 3, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition. **Areas of Concern:** Major plumbing problems (toilets/drains overflowing); the maintenance man was advised that if this issue is not corrected it will become a major Cal OSHA violation. Elevator problem was corrected.

Pennacle Foundation – 35, #4 – Vice Chairman Bacio and Commissioners Moore and Hall The facility was visited on December 8, 2009, and found to be in satisfactory condition. **Area of Concern:** No House Rules posted; staff will fax over Rules and car maintenance records.

Discussion ensued in response to Commissioner Bigby’s inquiry regarding the difference of a command inspection and a court inspection. Commissioner Bigby commended Commissioner Moore for his revision of the jail/courthouse inspection form.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chairperson Bacio noted that a LAUSD employee contacted him in reference to the Commission’s Scholarship Program and the lack of applicants following through in the application process. Following discussion, Commissioner Hill agreed to lead the Scholarship Program and identify applicants and school/organizational contacts.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda.)

Commissioner Moore noted that significant DCFS issues have arisen of late, and he suggested that the Commission invite the DCFS Department Director to a Commission meeting to discuss how the Commission can be of assistance.

Commissioner Hammargren suggested that Cassandra Youngblood, Ombudsman, Auditor-Controller’s Office, review the Commission’s Group Homes Inspection Forms for possible enhancements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Montaña thanked Ms. Jefferson and staff for decorating the Commission meeting room for the Holiday Luncheon, and adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.